THE CAFÉ TERRACE AND ITS GODDESSES

KOUJI SEO

10

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KOUJI SEO

Contents

#88 One Last Pilaf

#89 Departure Day

#90 New Familia Order

#91 Ami's Uneasiness

#92 Just the Two of Us at Familia

#93 I'm Greedy, After All

#94 Someday's Valentine

#95 A Chiyoda Diner Emergency!

#96 Rei vs. The Five Assassins

#97 Preparing for a Role

THE CAFÉ TERRACE AND ITS GODDESSES

IT SEEMS THAT MY TEACHER AT THE VOCATIONAL SCHOOL HAS AN ACQUAINTANCE WHO WORKS FOR A FRENCH FASHION BRAND.

THEY ASKED ME IF I'D LIKE TO GO AND WORK THERE.

THEY SAID THAT THEY'D GIVE ME A RECOMMENDATION BECAUSE OF MY SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE, AND QUALIFICATIONS.

S...SO YOU'RE GOING TO WORK THERE?!

YEAH... FROM MARCH.

I HAVE TO GET THINGS SET UP OVER THERE, SO I'M LEAVING HERE AT THE END OF THIS MONTH, AND THEN I'LL GO TO FRANCE IN FEBRUARY.

I HAVE ENOUGH CREDITS, SO I'LL BE COMING BACK FOR GRADUATION.

Familia
CAFÉ TERRACE

THE CAFÉ TERRACE AND ITS GODDESSES

#88 One Last Pilaf

...AMI-CHAN!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AND CONGRATULA-TIONS ON GETTING ACCEPTED INTO COLLEGE...

...

THIS ONE WON'T TEAR EVEN IF YOU GO A LITTLE WILD IN IT, SO DON'T WORRY!

I MADE YOU A NEW UNIFORM AS A PRESENT!

WOW, THANK YOU!!

I MADE SOME FOR EVERYONE ELSE TOO.

IF THEY GET A LITTLE FRAYED OR ANYTHING, YOU CAN HAVE AKANE-CHAN FIX THEM.

I'M NOT AS GOOD AT SEWING AS OUKA IS, THOUGH.

I SWEAR I'LL DO MY HOMEWORK, AND CLEAN PROPERLY, SO DON'T LEAVE US, OUKA-SAN!!

I DON'T WANT ANYTHING LIKE THAT!!

I DON'T WANT A PARTY EITHER!!

AMI-CHAN...

BUT EVEN YOU LEFT YOUR GRAND-MOTHER AND CAME TO LIVE WITH US...

...SO THAT YOU COULD DO YOUR KARATE, DIDN'T YOU?

YOU'RE STILL GOING ON ABOUT THAT, ARE YOU...?

BUT FAMILIES ARE SUPPOSED TO STAY TOGETHER FOREVER, RIGHT?!

TH...

THAT'S ...

...

OUKA HAS HER OWN THINGS THAT SHE WANTS TO DO, JUST LIKE YOU. THAT'S WHY SHE'S GOING TO FRANCE.

AS HER FAMILY, IT'S OUR JOB TO GIVE HER A GOOD SEND-OFF AND NOT MAKE THINGS HARDER FOR HER.

CLATTER ガ'ガ'ガ'ッ

RATTLE ガラッ

AH... WAIT, AMI.

UWA-AAAH!!

HOW CAN YOU BE SO MATTER-OF-FACT ABOUT THIS?!

YOU'RE SO COLD, HAYACCHI!!

HEY, HAVE YOU HEARD? APPARENTLY OUKA-CHAN'S GOING TO FRANCE.

AH... YEAH, I HEARD TOO.

IT'S AMAZING, ISN'T IT? SHE'S GOING TO BE WORKING FOR A FASHION BRAND, RIGHT?

BUT I'LL MISS HER.

WE'D JUST GOT TO KNOW HER BETTER, TOO.

NOW YOU MENTION IT, WEREN'T THEY GOING TO HIRE A NEW PART-TIMER?

THAT FRIEND OF AMI-CHAN'S.

...?

WHAT'S WRONG, HEKIRU...? YOU'RE MAKING A KINDA SCARY FACE.

...

WELL OF COURSE I AM!! IT *IS* SCARY!!

I NEVER THOUGHT THEY'D HAVE THE KIND OF SYSTEM WHERE ONE HEROINE GRADUATES AND THEN THEY BRING IN A NEW ONE!!

BUBBLE

BUBBLE

HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO SULK?

SHIRAGIKU MADE ALL THAT ESPECIALLY FOR YOU.

I'LL EAT IT LATER...

JUST SO YOU KNOW, THE REST OF US ARE GONNA MISS HER TOO.

AND I'M SURE...

THAT OUT OF ALL OF US, HAYATO'S GONNA MISS HER THE MOST.

HUH?

EVEN THE COFFEE HE MADE ME THE OTHER DAY DIDN'T TASTE AS GOOD AS IT NORMALLY DOES.

HE'S BEEN ZONING OUT AT WORK RECENTLY, AND HE'S BEEN GETTING ORDERS WRONG MORE OFTEN, TOO.

TAP

TAP

...BUT IT'S PROBABLY STILL HARD ON HIM LOSING A MEMBER OF HIS FAMILY, DON'T YOU THINK?

SIZZZZLE

HIM AND OUKA MAY HAVE BEEN FIGHTING ALL THE TIME...

DON'T KICK THE DOOR!!

THUD

SINCE YOU'RE GOING TO QUIT, I HAVE TO REARRANGE ALL THE SHIFTS.

DID YOU NEED SOME-THING?

RATTLE カ"ニ"ッ

ARE YOU STILL BUSY?

HUH?

CLINK コト…

HERE...

I MADE YOU A MIDNIGHT SNACK.

THIS IS THE LAST TIME I CAN MAKE IT FOR YOU, AFTER ALL.

IT'S GRANDMA'S PILAF.

THANKS ...

I'LL SAVOR IT.

WHAT IS IT?

...

WHAT ...?

I'D ALWAYS WORRIED ABOUT IT, YOU KNOW.

WHAT YOU INTENDED TO DO WITH FAMILIA.

I WAS SO RELIEVED WHEN YOU SAID YOU WERE GOING TO QUIT UNIVERSITY TO INHERIT IT PROPERLY.

Familia
CAFÉ TERRACE

WELL, THE CAFÉ WAS SO IMPORTANT TO GRANDMA.

Familia

YEAH ...

NOW I CAN GO TO FRANCE WITH NO WORRIES.

IS THAT WHAT YOU MEANT WHEN YOU SAID YOU HAD SOMETHING TO ASK ME?

...IT'S ALL WELL AND GOOD YOU GOING TO FRANCE, BUT CAN YOU EVEN SPEAK THE LANGUAGE?

I'LL BE FINE. I KNEW I ALWAYS WANTED TO GO THERE SOMEDAY, SO I'VE BEEN LEARNING FRENCH THIS WHOLE TIME.

I SEE... I GUESS YOU ARE FROM A FAMILY OF TOKYO U ALUMNI, AFTER ALL.

SO YOU'RE SMART, THEN?

...

SPEAKING OF WHICH...

...

THAT WAS PART OF IT...

BUT I'D ALWAYS WORRIED...

...WHETHER IT WAS REALLY OKAY TO SAY I WANTED TO BE-COME A FASHION DESIGNER.

WHEN YOU CAME BACK TO THIS HOUSE, HAYATO-KUN, I WAS THINKING...

THAT IF YOU REALLY DID TURN THE HOUSE AND THE CAFÉ INTO A PARKING LOT, I'D QUIT VOCATIONAL SCHOOL.

WELL... IT'S PRETTY FAR FROM YOUR FAMILY HOME, RIGHT?

...

I FIGURED IT'D BE A GOOD TIME FOR ME TO GO BACK AND TRY GOING TO UNIVERSITY INSTEAD.

BUT YOU WERE SO COMPLIMENTARY ABOUT THE UNIFORMS I MADE...

I MEAN... HOW CAN I SAY... I'M JUST SAYING THEY'RE AWESOME...

...THESE COS-TUMES!!

AND SINCE YOU SAID YOU'D KEEP THE CAFÉ OPEN...

...I DECIDED TO TRY A LITTLE HARDER.

AND IN DOING SO, I'M NOW ONE STEP CLOSER TO MY DREAM.

...SO...

...I'M REALLY GRATE-FUL...

...

AND...

WELL...

THANK YOU FOR EVERY-THING...

...

...

IN THE MEANTIME, I'LL LEAVE YOUR ROOM EMPTY, JUST IN CASE.

WELL, IF THEY DECIDE YOU'RE USELESS AND KICK YOU OUT, I'LL HIRE YOU AGAIN HERE.

...UH-HUH.

WELL, GOOD-NIGHT, THEN.

I'LL BE FINE.

I'LL DO MY BEST TO MAKE SURE THAT DOESN'T HAPPEN.

CLOSE

...

CHEW
もぐ…

WHAT?

WAS THERE SOMETHING YOU FORGOT TO TELL ME...?

KNOCK
コン
KNOCK
コン

ガラ
RATTLE

I DO NOT. THIS IS THE FIRST I'VE HEARD OF IT.

YOU, YOUNG MAN. DO YOU KNOW THE SAYING, "WHEN TIMES ARE HARD, SEEK GORILLA'S BREASTS"?

GET OUT.

TONIGHT, AS A SPECIAL TREAT...

SQUEEZE THIS GORILLA'S BREASTS TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT.

CAFÉ TERRACE

DON'T GO WANDERING AROUND ALONE AT NIGHT, OKAY?

OKAY.

WELL THEN, TAKE CARE, OUKA-CHAN.

THE CAFÉ TERRACE AND ITS GODDESSES

AND MY GRANDMOTHER HAS A BAD BACK, SO I WENT TO SAY GOODBYE TO THEM ALL YESTERDAY.

NO... NEITHER OF MY PARENTS COULD GET OUT OF WORK...

IS YOUR FAMILY GOING TO THE AIRPORT TO SEE YOU OFF?

WHY DON'T YOU GET YOUR OTHER FAMILY TO SEE YOU OFF ON YOUR LAST DAY?

YOU MIGHT NEVER SEE THEM AGAIN, AFTER ALL.

AND...

Familia
CAFÉ TERRACE

...BEFORE I LEFT FOR FRANCE.

I WANTED TO REALLY SEAR THIS PLACE INTO MY MEMORY...

THIS IS A MAJOR UPSET IN THE RACE TO BE THE MAIN HEROINE, YOU KNOW?!

DO YOUR BEST!

TAKE CARE!

UHH, NO, I'M GOOD.

USE IT IF YOU GET LONELY.

HERE, A PARTING GIFT FOR YOU.

WE'RE ALL ROOTING FOR YOU, OUKA-CHAN!!

UGH, WHY'S HE DOING ALL THAT RIGHT BEFORE WE HAVE TO LEAVE?

AMI-CHAN, GO AND GET HIM.

OKAAAY!

HE SAID HE WAS GOING TO GO AND LOOK FOR THE HOUSE KEY.

HUH...? WHERE'S HAYATO-KUN?

WE SHOULD PROBABLY GET GOING, RIGHT?

#89 Departure Day

HEY, ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T WANT TO CHECK THAT BAG IN WITH THE OTHERS?

WHAT? YEAH, THIS ONE'S FINE.

...

WELL, I THOUGHT TAKING YOU ALL THE WAY TO THE AIRPORT WAS GOING TO JUST BE SOME KIND OF JOKE...

WHY'RE YOU SAYING THAT NOW, AMI-CHAN?

YOU'RE REALLY GOING, AREN'T YOU, OUKA-SAN?

...

OKAY THEN.

NOT LONG TO GO, THEN.

YEAH.

WHAT TIME'S YOUR PLANE?

UMM... 9:45 I THINK.

THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING ALL THE WAY TO THE AIRPORT TO SEE ME OFF.

YOU CAN ALL GO BACK NOW, THOUGH, YOU KNOW?

WELL, TAKE CARE, OUKA-CHAN.

WHEN I BECOME A FAMOUS ACTRESS SOMEDAY, YOU'LL HAVE TO DESIGN A BEAUTIFUL OUTFIT FOR ME.

MY BAND'S AIMING TO BECOME POPULAR ENOUGH TO DO A JAPAN TOUR BY THE TIME YOU GET BACK...

...SO I'LL BE COUNTING ON YOU TO MAKE SOME COOL STAGE OUTFITS FOR US.

ME AND MY HUSBAND WILL BE WAITING HERE, READY TO MAKE YOUR FAVORITE PUMPKIN CHEESECAKE!

IF YOU DO EVER COME BACK TO JAPAN, PLEASE STOP BY FAMILIA, TOO.

YOU'RE BEING A LITTLE TOO IMPUDENT THERE, SHIRAGIKU.

WHY'RE YOU COMING OUT WITH THAT ALL OF A SUDDEN?

...

ANA* FLIGHT NH-215 TO PARIS WILL SOON BE DEPARTING.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR WAY TO THE GATE AND WAIT TO BEGIN BOARDING.

UWAAAH!! I'M GONNA MISS YOU, OUKA-SAN!!

AT LEAST LET ME SEE YOUR FACE ONE LAST TIME, AMI-CHAN.

*All Nippon Airways, a Japanese airline which offers both domestic and international flights

OH...

OH, RIGHT.

...

...

HEY, OUKA.

SHOULDN'T YOU GO TO THE BATH-ROOM BEFORE YOU GET ON THE PLANE?

WHAT...? I'LL BE FINE. BESIDES, THERE'RE TOILETS ON THE PLANE, TOO.

SORRY, HAYATO-KUN...

YOU SHOULD PROBABLY CHECK WHETHER YOU CAN BRING IT ON THE PLANE...

AH...THE DAIFUKU YOU GOT AS A SOU-VENIR...

I...

...HAVE TO GO.

...

YEAH...

SORRY.

P

...

CLACK

DON'T MAKE THAT FACE...

IT GIVES ME SUCH A THRILL.

HEY—

I KNEW!!

...

IT SURE SEEMS SO.

I DIDN'T KNOW THAT OUKA-CHAN WAS SUCH A SADIST.

YOU GONNA MISS ME?! HEY, LIL' PIGGY!!

A HA HA HA!! WHAT A GREAT FACE YOU'RE MAKING!!

ARE YOU COMPLETELY DEVOID OF EMOTION?!

WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?!

WHAT?

I DON'T WANT HIM TO HAVE TO GO THROUGH ANY MORE LOSS OF FAMILY MEMBERS...

THAT BOY GETS LONELY EASILY, SO I'D BETTER LIVE AS LONG AS I CAN.

...IS IT?

THAT'S NOT TRUE...

AH...!

WHAT?!

WHY?!

OOH!!

WH...

WHAT'RE YOU DOING...?

HEH HEH...

I STILL HAD MINE, AFTER ALL, SO I FIGURED I'D MAKE USE OF IT.

MY "RIGHT TO KISS HAYATO-KUN," I MEAN.

WHEN A GIRL YOU HATE DOES SOMETHING LIKE THAT TO YOU...

...THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN SAY YOU'LL MISS HER, RIGHT?

OKAAAY! I DON'T NEED YOU TO TELL ME TWICE.

HEY!!

GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE, I DON'T CARE WHETHER YOU GO TO FRANCE OR SOMEWHERE ELSE, JUST GO ALREADY!!

WELL THEN...

...TAKE CARE, EVERYONE!

ゴオオオオ
RUMMMBLE
OFF SHE GOES.
YEAH... I HOPE SHE CAN ACHIEVE HER DREAM.
I'M SURE SHE'LL BE FINE, THIS IS OUKA WE'RE TALKING ABOUT.
...
WELL ...
...DO YOUR BEST... OUKA.

I WAS TRYING TO MAKE IT LIKE THOSE FARE-WELL SHOTS IN SHONEN MANGA!

FLAP

FLAP

WHAT'S THAT...?

MAKING SOMETHING LIKE THIS DESPITE SAYING HOW MUCH YOU'RE GOING TO MISS HER...THERE'S SOMETHING NOT RIGHT ABOUT YOU.

NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I DID SEE YOU TAKING PHOTOS BEFORE.

DON'T DO THAT, IT'S BAD LUCK!

HUH? YOU WENT OUT OF YOUR WAY TO PRINT THAT?

BUT I DIDN'T WANT EVERYONE TO BE ALL SAD WHEN SHE LEFT!!

...I MADE THESE.

WELL, BECAUSE...

THE CAFÉ TERRACE AND ITS GODDESSES

1

...ALWAYS THIS BIG?

WAS THIS ROOM...

MY NAME IS REI KARIYA-ZAKI!!

I'LL BE WORKING AT FAMILIA, STARTING TODAY!!

#90 New Familia Order

YOU LOOK SO CUTE!

WHAT?

WOW, THE UNIFORM ACTUALLY REALLY SUITS YOU.

コーヒー
テイクアウト

ホットドリップ
HOT 400円
ICE 450円

CAFE THIS-IS Familia

STOP MAKING FUN OF ME.

I'VE NEVER WORN ANYTHING LIKE THIS BEFORE, SO I'M REALLY EMBARRASSED.

HM? YEAH, THAT'S IT.

WELL, DO YOUR BEST.

IT'S TO HELP US IMPROVE OUR CORE STRENGTH, ISN'T IT, MASTER?!

...AH!!

BESIDES, WHY ARE HIGH HEELS SO...

...WOBBLY AND HARD TO BALANCE IN?

...

WHAT ...?

KNOW YOUR PLACE, NEWBIE...

U... UM...

THAT'S HEKIRU-CHAN.

WHO IS THAT...?

...

YOU COULD NEVER REPLACE OUKA-CHAN.

YOU'RE JUST A SUB-HEROINE, A DISTRACTION AT BEST.

SHE WORKS AT THE OTHER STORE HAYATO-KUN OWNS.

THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN WIN THE RACE FROM THIS STARTING POINT... IT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN. THAT'S NOT HOW IT WORKS.

SHE'S A LITTLE STRANGE, BUT SHE'S NOT A BAD PERSON, YOU KNOW?

I SEE...
SO THEY CAN'T FORGIVE ME FOR DISREGARDING THEM AND WORKING HERE.

THE OTHER STORE...
SO THAT MEAN'S SHE'S IN THE RESERVE GROUP THAT DIDN'T MAKE IT INTO FAMILIA, ALONG WITH THAT CAPOEIRA GIRL...

WHA ...?

W...WELL, I THINK YOU CAN DO IT, MAYBE!

I'M SORRY FOR NOT KNOWING MY PLACE.

I'LL WORK HARD UNTIL I CAN EARN YOUR RECOGNITION. SO PLEASE FORGIVE ME!

UH...HOW TO EXPLAIN IT...

BATTLE OF THE BANDS?

WHAT'S THAT?

WELL, THEN... I'LL BE HEADING OFF NOW.

TODAY'S THE BATTLE OF THE BANDS, SO I CAN'T AFFORD TO BE LATE.

...DOES THAT HELP?

WE FACE OFF AGAINST THE OTHER BAND...

...THE BANDO*...!!

THEY'RE FIGHTING...

*Bando is the former name of the Kanto region, which now consists of prefectures Gunma, Tochigi, Ibaraki, Saitama, Tokyo, Chiba, and Kanagawa (Rei has misheard "band" as "bando").

KOZUKE

SHIMOTSUKE

MUSASHI

HITA

"BANDO" IS THE NAME GIVEN TO THE EIGHT PROVINCES TO THE EAST OF THE ASHIGARA PASS IN HAKONE**.

SHIMOSA

SAGAMI

SINCE ANCIENT TIMES, THE PEOPLE OF BANDO HAVE BEEN SAID TO BE DARING AND RESOLUTE, EXCELLING IN THE MARTIAL ARTS... AND SHE'S TAKING PART IN A DUEL THERE!!

KAZUSA

AWA

**A mountainous town in Kanagawa prefecture, known for its hot spring resorts.

HA HA, THANKS.

OKAY, WELL, I'LL BE BACK LATER.

I WILL PRAY FOR YOUR VICTORY IN BATTLE!!

YEAH, SHE'S AT UNIVERSITY.

SHE SAID SHE WAS GOING TO HER CLUB.

OH...BY THE WAY, I DON'T SEE RIHO-SAN HERE TODAY.

SHE SAID THAT SHE'S GOING TO GO TO PERFORMANCE CLUB TO HELP HER GET BACK INTO THE SWING OF THINGS.

SHE QUIT FOR A WHILE, BUT SHE DECIDED TO START STUDYING PERFORMING AGAIN.

SO MASTER, FROM YOUR POINT OF VIEW, WHAT ARE RIHO-SAN'S PERFOR-MANCES LIKE?

HUH?

HIYAAAAH!!

PERFOR-MANCE... LIKE MARTIAL ARTS DEMON-STRA-TIONS?!

SHE NEEDS TO WORK ON HER HABIT OF GETTING TOO FIRED UP AND OVER-ACTING.

SHE'S NOT QUITE THERE YET.

A THOROUGH ANALYSIS, AS I EXPECTED...

I... I SEE.

WH... WHAT DID SHE SAY?

THE OTHER DAY, WHEN I TRIED TO HIT HER FROM BEHIND, SHE STOPPED ME WITH ONE HAND!

AND WHAT DO YOU THINK SHE SAID?

OH... BY THE WAY, RIHO-SAN IS REALLY STRONG WHEN YOU TRY TO FIGHT HER, YOU KNOW?

WHOAAA!!

FWSH FWSH

"YOU REALLY THOUGHT YOU COULD CATCH ME OFF GUARD LIKE THAT...?"

THAT WAS IT!!

HM! I KNEW IT!!

WHA-AAAT?

OH...IF YOU NEED SOMEONE TO GO SHOPPING, I'LL GO.

STOP TALKING NONSENSE.

IF YOU'VE GOT THAT MUCH FREE TIME, GO AND BUY SOME COFFEE FILTERS.

WHAT'S THAT SUP-POSED TO MEAN?!

AND AS FOR AMI, IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER SHE'S HERE OR NOT.

OKAY.

SHIRAGIKU'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO DO THINGS.

NO... YOU NEED TO GET USED TO WORKING HERE FIRST, REI.

CAFÉ TERRACE

THAT'S SO COOL! I KNEW YOU'D HAVE A KNACK FOR MARTIAL ARTS! THE WORLD'S OUR OYSTER NOW!!

I'LL REACH SHODAN* SOON.

YEAH... I TOOK UP KARATE 'CAUSE I WANNA SEND THAT PONY-TAILED GIRL FLYING.

FOR REAL, EI-CHAN?!

*Also known as 1st Dan - a first-degree black belt.

IF IT WEREN'T FOR HER, I'D BEAT THE CRAP OUT OF THAT COCKY MANAGER OF THEIRS.

EVEN WHEN SHE'S NOT WORKING, SHE'S NORMALLY AT THE STORE CHOWING DOWN ON THEIR CAKE.

BUT THE PROBLEM IS THAT MAD DOG OUKA.

AH, I WONDER HOW OUKA-SAN'S DOING?

I MISS HER.

I HOPE SHE'S EATING LOTS OF DELICIOUS CAKES IN FRANCE.

?!

STOMP ズ ン

FLINCH ヒッ ヒッ

UGH, WHY DO I HAVE TO GO SHOPPING?!

ズ ン STOMP

DID YOU HEAR THAT, EI-CHAN...? MAD DOG'S IN FRANCE.

UH-HUH...

AND THAT GIRL WITH THE PONYTAIL IS ABOUT TO GO SHOPPING.

SO ISN'T THIS THE PERFECT TIME TO BEAT UP THAT MANAGER?

YES...THAT'S WHY I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHAT YOU DID WHEN YOU WERE DRUNK.

I WAS WONDER-ING IF YOU COULD TEACH ME HOW TO MAKE A RIGHT-ANGLE TURN WHILE MOVING STRAIGHT AHEAD LIKE THAT.

OH, THAT?

I LEARNED HOW TO DO IT WHILE I WAS FIGURING OUT HOW TO STAY CONSCIOUS WHILE INTOXICATED.

S...SUCH A THING IS POSSIBLE ...?

IT... IS FOR ME.

IT SEEMS THAT I CAN ROTATE MY BREASTS IN THE DIRECTION I WANT TO MOVE BY SHIFTING MY WEIGHT.

THE FORCE OF INERTIA GENERATED BY THAT CIRCULAR MOTION CAUSES ME TO TURN AT A RIGHT ANGLE.

$$F = mr\omega^2 = \frac{mv^2}{r}$$

$$v = r\omega$$

$$\omega = 2\pi n$$

r

WHAT'RE YOU TEACH-ING HER?

OF COURSE SOMETHING THAT RIDIC-ULOUS ISN'T POSSIBLE.

I HEAR MAD DOG OUKA'S NOT HERE ANYMORE!!

HEY!! WE'RE BACK!!

AS SOON AS OUR DETERRENT'S GONE, HERE THEY ARE.

...

AH... THEY'RE JUST A BUNCH OF PUNKS WHO LIKE CAUSING TROUBLE FOR PEOPLE AROUND HERE.

MAS-TER...

WHO ARE THOSE GUYS?

O...OH NO!

AND AMI-CHAN'S NOT HERE NOW, EITHER!

I WONDER HOW THEY KNEW SHE'D LEFT.

THEY'VE STAYED AWAY FROM THIS PLACE UNTIL NOW BECAUSE THEY WERE SCARED OF OUKA.

NO MATTER HOW I LOOK AT IT, THEY'RE OBVIOUSLY BAD GUYS.

I SEE...

WHAT?! WE AIN'T SCARED!!

QUIT TALKIN' NONSENSE, YOU LITTLE BRAT!!

HEY, IF YOU DON'T WANT US TO DESTROY YOUR STORE, COME OUT-SIDE, MISTER MANAGER!!

SINCE I'M SUCH A NICE GUY, I'LL FIGHT YOU ONE-ON-ONE!!

OH, IS THAT SO?

CLATTER

HUH?

HEY, YOU WITH THE TINY MUSTACHE, DON'T PUSH YOUR LUCK...

IF YOU WANT TO FIGHT MASTER, THEN AS FAMILIA'S WEAKEST DISCIPLE...

...YOU'LL HAVE TO DEFEAT ME FIRST.

STEP

I DUNNO, MAN, SHE LOOKS LIKE A PRO!!

DON'T WORRY, LEAVE IT TO ME.

WH... WHAT'S WITH THIS GIRL?!

WHAM

WHIRL

DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE ME!!

NO WOMAN'S GONNA BEAT ME!!

HUH?!

I DID IT!!

WHOOSH

WHERE'D SHE-

WH...

WHAAAM

DON'T SHOW YOUR FACE AROUND HERE AGAIN, YOU HEAR ME?!

YOU COCK-ROACH!!

HMPH ...

NOW THEY'VE GOT SOME-ONE EVEN STRONGER!!

UWAAAH!!

HUH?

WOW, I'M IMPRESSED!

JUST AS I'D EXPECT FROM SOMEONE WHO CAME SECOND IN THE INTER-HIGH TOURNAMENT!

I'M GLAD I HIRED YOU...REI.

THANK YOU!!

I'LL KEEP WORKING HARD!!

I SHOULD AT LEAST THANK THEM IN PERSON.

WELL, I GUESS THEY DID LOOK AFTER NEE-SAN AFTER ALL.

WH... WHAT ABOUT IT?!

WHAT, SO YOU'RE STILL HERE?!

UWA-AAH!!

SO MUCH HAS HAPPENED THIS YEAR...

SHO-RYU-KEN!

HA-DOU-KEN!

HA-DOU-KEN!

I'LL BE GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL SOON...

THE CAFÉ TERRACE AND ITS GODDESSES

THWACK

BEATING UP BAD GUYS WITH HAYACCHI AT THE CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL...

HAVING A BATH TOGETHER...

HAYACCHI HELPING MY GRANDMA...

TOR-NADO WHIRL-WIND KICK!

PLAYING WITH HAYACCHI AT THE BEACH...

GOING ON THAT PICNIC...

TAKING A TRIP TOGETH-ER...

...HUH?

PRICK

THE CAFÉ TERRACE AND ITS GODDESSES

#91 Ami's Uneasiness

I GOT BORED OF PLAYING ON MY OWN!!

HAYACCHI! LET'S HAVE A *STREET FIGHTER II* BATTLE!!

GAI'' RATTLE

I'M BUSY CHECKING MY STOCKS RIGHT NOW, SO I'LL PLAY LATER.

OH?

*Ami misheard "stocks" as "stalks".

TINA AND REI ARE HERE.

KIDS LIKE YOU SHOULD GO AND PLAY OUTSIDE.

YOU CAN LOOK AT PLANTS* ANY TIME!! COME ON, LET'S PLAY *STREET FIGHTER!!*

...

STOP BEING SO LOUD.

STOMP

STOMP

WHACK

HUP!!

WHOA!!

!!

PAUSE

HEH HEH.

THUMP

I'M USED TO WATCHING AMI-CHAN DO KARATE...

...SO I GUESS I HAD A BIT OF AN ADVANTAGE!!

YOU GOT ME!! AS I EXPECTED, YOU'RE STRONG, TINA-SAN!!

YOU'RE STRONG TOO, REI-CHAN!

I CAME HERE ON MY DAY OFF TO TRY TO GET SOME TRAINING FROM MASTER...

Y... YES.

?

どよーん

SLUMP

...BUT I SUPPOSE IF I CAN'T EVEN BEAT ONE OF FAMILIA'S RESERVE ARMY, THERE'S NO WAY HE'D TAKE ME SERIOUSLY...

WHAT? WHY SHOULD I HAVE TO DO SOME-THING LIKE THAT?

IF YOU WANT TO TRAIN, TRAIN WITH TINA.

WHAT'S THE MATTER, AMI TSURUGA? YOU SEEM A LITTLE LACKING IN ENERGY TODAY.

OH, HEY REI-CHAN.

I CHALLENGED HAYACCHI TO A SHOWDOWN BUT HE TURNED ME DOWN.

AH, YOU TOO, HUH?

SPEAKING OF WHICH, HAVE YOU FOUGHT AGAINST MASTER BEFORE?

HUH? YEAH, I HAVE.

HUN-DREDS OF TIMES.

H...HUN-DREDS?!

WHAT WAS IT LIKE?!

...

S... SCARY?

I'D SAY HE'S MORE SCARY THAN HE IS STRONG.

WHAT WAS IT LIKE...? *HMM...* LET ME SEE...

BUT IT CAN BE FUN SOMETIMES, TOO.

WHOA!! HE BEAT ME WITH A STRONG CROUCHING PUNCH!!

AH...MY SHORYUKEN MISSED!

THOSE KIND OF PEOPLE ARE THE SCARIEST, SEE?

YOU CAN NEVER TELL WHAT HE'S GONNA DO.

SOMETIMES I CAN'T CONCENTRATE WHEN WE'RE BATTLING...OR MY FACE GETS ALL HOT.

WHEN I'M WITH HAYACCHI, MY HEART TINGLES, AND I GET ALL FLUS-TERED.

I'VE BEEN FEELING KINDA WEIRD LATELY.

I SEE... SO YOU'RE ABLE TO ENJOY FIGHT-ING AGAINST MASTER...

YEAH...

BUT, YOU KNOW ...

HEY...

THAT...

...

YOU THINK SO, TOO?

...MEANS SOMETHING MUST BE WRONG WITH YOU.

YOU SHOULD GO TO THE HOS-PITAL.

I THOUGHT WE STILL HAD SOME, BUT WE'VE RUN OUT.

I'M SORRY, BUT COULD YOU GO TO THE SUPERMARKET AND GET SOME MISO AND SOY SAUCE FOR ME?

OH... THERE YOU ARE.

AMI-CHAN, CAN I BORROW YOU FOR A SECOND?

WHAT...? I COULDN'T ASK YOU TO DO THAT.

IT'S FINE!! I'M THE LOWEST-RANKING ONE HERE, SO IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT I SHOULD DO IT!!

OH! IF THAT'S ALL IT IS, I'LL DO IT!!

WHAT IS IT?

UM, MAKE SURE YOU GET THE LOW-SALT SOY SAUCE–

RIGHT !!

REALLY? ALRIGHT THEN, PLEASE DO THAT FOR ME.

YES MA'AM!!

WHAT?

AMI-CHAN...

THAT THING YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT JUST NOW, I DON'T THINK IT MEANS YOU'RE SICK.

YEAH. BOTH OF MY PARENTS WERE REALLY GOOD AT CAPOEIRA.

THEY'D BEEN RIVALS FOREVER.

YOUR MOTHER ?

A LONG TIME AGO, MY MOTH-ER...

...SAID THE SAME THING.

...ENJOYING CHATTING AND DRINKING TEA WITH MY FATHER EVEN MORE THAN FIGHTING WITH HIM.

BUT EVENTUALLY, MY MOTHER ENDED UP...

I SEE.

...

THAT HER CAPOEIRA BECAME A LOT WEAKER.

...HER HEART TINGLED SO MUCH AND MADE HER FEEL SO FLUSTERED...

BUT EVEN THOUGH SHE ENJOYED IT...

HOW DID SHE KNOW SHE WASN'T SICK?

OH... JUST LIKE ME.

WELL...

DID HER CAPOEIRA SKILLS GO BACK TO NORMAL?

DID YOUR MOTHER STOP GETTING THAT TINGLY, FLUSTERED FEELING IN THE END?

I DUNNO, SHE TOLD ME I'D UNDERSTAND WHEN I GOT OLDER.

SO IT'S A MYS-TERY...

...BUT SHE SAID THE TINGLES AND FLUSTERED FEELING WENT AWAY AFTER SHE GOT MARRIED, SO SHE'S OKAY NOW.

HER CAPOEIRA'S STILL NOT AS STRONG AS BEFORE...

...

!

AMI-CHAN'S SUDDENLY...

...BECOME THE FAVORITE.

BE CAREFUL, AKANE-CHAN!!

THAT GIRL STILL HAS HER RIGHT TO KISS HIM!!

WHAT'RE YOU GOING ON ABOUT?

A HA HA HA!

THERE'S NO WAY SHE HAS THOSE KIND OF FEELINGS FOR HIM...

THE RACE TO BE THE HEROINE!! THE MOMENT AMI-CHAN REALIZES HER FEELINGS FOR HIM, IT COULD ALL BE OVER, YOU KNOW?!

A HA HA HA!

YEAH, NO WAY.

...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, HER FEELINGS?

HER FEELINGS OF LOVE!! FOR HAYATO-KUN!!

SO YOU WERE OUT HERE, HUH?

SORRY ABOUT EARLIER.

I'M FREE NOW, SO LET'S PLAY *STREET FIGHTER II*.

HAYA-CCHI...

...

WHAT IS IT?

UM...

I...I DO...

BUT FIRST... CAN I SAY SOME-THING...?

WHAT'S WRONG?

DON'T YOU WANT TO?

WHAM

I'M SORRY, HAYA-CCHI.

IT SEEMS I'LL HAVE TO CHOOSE MY OWN WAY NOW.

CRASH

I CHOOSE TO GET STRONGER, FOR THE SAKE OF JUSTICE!!

AND TO DO THAT, I HAVE TO SACRIFICE YOU!!

FROM NOW ON, MY PATH WILL BE FILLED WITH SUFFERING!!

THIS PAIN IN MY CHEST WAS JUST GUILT FOR DESTROYING THE HAPPY LIFE I LEAD!

MY INSTINCTS WERE TELLING ME ALL THIS!!

BUT I PRETENDED NOT TO REALIZE!!

AMI TSURUGA!! I WAS WALKING AROUND AND THINKING IT OVER MORE CAREFULLY, AND I REALIZED!!

THOSE THINGS YOU'RE FEELING ARE—

...

WHAA-
AAAAA
?!!

RUMM

RUMBLE

I'LL ASK YOU ONE MORE TIME...

WHAT NONSENSE WERE YOU SPOUTING JUST NOW?

I'M SORRY.

GRIND

I GOT IT WRONG.

GRIND

I'LL GO TO THE HOSPITAL.

GRIND

TREMBLE

AAAAAARGH!! THAT'S SO SCARYYYY!!

WHAT'S ALL THIS? WAS AMI-CHAN MESSING AROUND AGAIN?

TREMBLE

SO THIS IS WHAT SHE MEANT!!

TREMBLE

#92 Just the Two of Us at Familia

Familia
CAFÉ TERRACE
THANK YOU, COME AGAIN!
THINGS HAVE FINALLY CALMED DOWN.
PHEW...
I DON'T REALLY MIND.
RIHO AND SHIRAGIKU ARE BUSY WITH EXAMS, AND REI'S IN TOKYO UNTIL GRADUATION.
SINCE I'M A PART-TIMER, I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO'S FREE, RIGHT?
SORRY TO HAVE TO KEEP ASKING YOU TO WORK.
AMI SHOULD GET HOME FROM SCHOOL SOON.

YOU WANT ONE TODAY, TOO?

IF YOU FEEL THAT BAD ABOUT IT, MAKE ME A CUP OF BLENDED COFFEE.

IT'S ON YOU, MASTER.

BUT... EVEN SO...

IT DOESN'T SEEM FAIR TO MAKE YOU SHOULDER ALL THE WORK ALONE.

RATTLE RATTLE カシ

カシ RATTLE RATTLE カシ

FSHHH シュウウ

I'LL START CHARGING YOU SOON.

...

コ CLINK ーン

WELL, THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DO SOMETHING EVERY DAY.

YOU'VE GOTTEN PRETTY GOOD AT THIS IN JUST ONE YEAR.

YOU LOOK MUCH MORE LIKE A REAL MANAGER NOW THAN YOU DID BEFORE.

HERE YOU GO.

カチャ
CLINK

...
OKAY.

MAKE SURE TO WASH YOUR CUP ONCE YOU'RE DONE.

...

YEAH...

WHAT?

OUKA LEAVING, I MEAN.

IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'VE FINALLY GOTTEN OVER IT.

SO THAT'S WHY YOU HAD ME MAKE YOU COFFEE EVERY DAY?

WELL, IF THE FLAVOR CHANGED TOO MUCH FOR THE WORSE, YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SELL IT ANY MORE.

SOMEHOW, IT TASTES...

...THE SAME AS IT DID BEFORE.

...

WELL JUST TELL ME PROPERLY NEXT TIME.

WHAT IS IT?

HEY...

CAN I ASK YOU A BORING QUESTION?

...

SUP-POSE I DO.

WELL... SUPPOSE YOU LIKE ME, RIGHT?

SAY, IF YOU WERE IN A BAND WITH ME...

IF THAT PERSON SAID THEY'D LET ME DEBUT AS A SOLO ARTIST RIGHT AWAY, BUT I HAD TO LEAVE THE BAND IN ORDER TO DO IT...

BUT THEN ONE DAY, SOMEONE IN THE MUSIC INDUSTRY COMES ALONG, AND SAYS THEY REALLY RATE MY MUSIC.

WOULD YOU SEND ME OFF WITH A SMILE LIKE YOU DID FOR OUKA WHEN SHE DECIDED TO CHASE HER DREAM?

WHAT WOULD YOU DO, HAYATO?

...TRY TO STOP ME?

...OR WOULD YOU...

DID YOUR GRANDMOTHER SAY SOMETHING TO YOU AGAIN?

WHAT KIND OF HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION IS THAT?

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

JUST ANSWER THE QUESTION.

I ALREADY TOLD YOU BEFORE.

WHETHER WE'RE FAMILY OR NOT, I'LL RESPECT YOUR DECISION.

...THEN WHAT ABOUT...

...IF I'M NOT SURE WHAT I SHOULD DO?

CREAK

HI

AH... WELCOME!

...

THERE'S NO MORE TIME TO CHAT. GET BACK TO WORK.

HEY, HAYA-TO!

WELL ...

BUT THERE'S NO POINT IN DOING IT IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO DO IT YOURSELF, RIHO-CHAN.

HEY, KIKU-CHAN, LET ME COPY YOUR REPORT.

WOW, THAT ANIME SOUNDS GREAT.

AND THEN, AND THEN! THE LITTLE SISTER, WHO'S A DEMON, COMES OUT OF THE BOX, AND SHE GETS ALL MUSCLY, RIGHT?!

...

...
SNUB
ぷいっ
!

...ASK ME SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

WHY DID SHE...

OR WOULD YOU... TRY TO STOP ME?

WOULD YOU SEND ME OFF WITH A SMILE LIKE YOU DID FOR OUKA WHEN SHE DECIDED TO CHASE HER DREAM?

AND...WHY WAS IT NECESSARY FOR ME TO LIKE AKANE IN THAT METAPHOR?

...WHAT ON EARTH IS SHE...

...WORRYING ABOUT NOW?

SO IF THE BAND THING WAS A METAPHOR FOR THE CAFÉ...

...WHAT WOULD SOMEONE FROM THE MUSIC INDUSTRY BE A METAPHOR FOR...?

CLOSED

Familia
CAFÉ TERRACE

RIHO-CHAN, IF YOU DON'T TAKE THESE THINGS SERIOUSLY, YOU REALLY WILL END UP HAVING TO REPEAT A YEAR, YOU KNOW?

JUST LET ME COPY IT!

IT'LL BE FIIIINE! I'LL CHANGE IT A BIT SO IT DOESN'T LOOK OBVIOUS!

WAKE UP, TSURUGA!!

I'VE ORDERED MORE COFFEE BEANS.

I GUESS I'LL DO SOME SHOPPING FOR DINNER THEN GO HOME.

OKAY...

三浦海岸駅
Miurakaigan station

AKA-

SORRY FOR MAKING YOU COME ALL THE WAY OUT HERE.

YOU DO?

THAT'S OKAY.

I LIVE AROUND HERE TOO, ANYWAY.

A HA HA HA!

WAIT, YOU KNOW I DO, RIGHT?

NO...

IT'S LONG... HE MUST BE A BASSIST.

HE CERTAINLY LOOKS MORE LIKE A BASSIST.

WHO'S THAT?

SOME GUITARIST FRIEND?

...LOOK.

I ALREADY TOLD YOU, I CAN'T.

WELL ...

KEEP IT IN MIND, OKAY?

HUH...?

IF YOU WERE WITH ME, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE TO WORK A PART-TIME JOB.

I'LL STILL WAIT FOR YOU, THOUGH.

I KNOW.

I DON'T ONLY WORK PART-TIME TO MAKE ENDS MEET, THOUGH...

WHAT'S THIS?

IS HE REALLY TRYING TO GET HER TO JOIN HIS BAND?

...

I WANT TO MAKE YOU SO HAPPY...

...THAT YOU'LL FORGET THAT YOU EVER LIKED THAT COFFEE SHOP MANAGER.

...

...IF I'M NOT SURE WHAT I SHOULD DO?

...THEN WHAT ABOUT...

#93 I'm Greedy, After All

...

SO THAT'S WHAT IT WAS ABOUT...

I SEE.

WHAT?

YOU KNOW...THAT HYPOTHETICAL SITUATION YOU ASKED ME ABOUT BEFORE.

THE ONE IF I WAS IN A BAND WITH YOU AND YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE OF US TO BE OFFERED THE CHANCE TO DEBUT FOR A MAJOR LABEL...

R... RIGHT.

DID I REALLY ASK YOU SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

SORRY, JUST FORGET ABOUT IT.

IT WASN'T ANYTHING IMPORTANT...

EVEN IF I DID LIKE YOU.

I WOULD SEND YOU OFF WITH A SMILE.

...

YEAH ...

SO IF YOU'RE NOT SURE WHAT TO DO, RATHER THAN ASKING ME, YOU SHOULD...

...I SEE.

WELL...

I FIGURED YOU'D SAY THAT THOUGH, HAYATO.

カリ CLICK

チャ

HELLO.

ARE YOU OPEN AT THE MOMENT?

!

SHIN-SAN!

...BE-SIDES...

...I ALSO WANTED TO MEET THIS MANAGER I'VE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT.

I JUST HAPPENED TO BE WALKING BY WHEN I SAW YOU IN HERE.

SO I THOUGHT I'D COME AND HAVE A CUP OF COFFEE OR SOME-THING.

IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU. I'M FUKA-YAMA.

I MET AKANE RECENTLY, AND WE'VE ENDED UP BECOMING GOOD FRIENDS.

UM...

LIKEWISE... I'M KASUKABE, THE MANAGER.

I SAW THE TWO OF YOU AT THE STATION... YESTERDAY.

IT WASN'T MY INTENTION TO EAVESDROP ON YOU...

BUT I DID HEAR A LITTLE OF WHAT WAS SAID.

YOU CERTAINLY SEEM LIKE A VERY CON-SCIENTIOUS PERSON.

THERE ISN'T REALLY ANY NEED FOR YOU TO INTRODUCE YOURSELF TO ME.

OH...

YOU DID?

SO WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT IT ALL THEN... KASUKABE-KUN?

!

HUH?

AND TREAT HER TO A CUP OF COFFEE EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE.

THE MOST I CAN DO FOR AKANE IS GIVE HER A PAYCHECK...

NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT... AS YOU CAN SEE, I'M JUST A CAFÉ MANAGER.

I THINK AKANE COULD GET CLOSER TO ACHIEVING HER DREAM IF SHE CHOOSES YOU...

RATHER THAN WORKING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS FOREVER.

YOU COULD PROBABLY EVEN HELP EACH OTHER IMPROVE.

BUT WITH YOU, FUKAYAMA-SAN, AS A FELLOW MUSICIAN, SHE COULD TALK TO YOU ABOUT HER PROBLEMS AND ASK YOU FOR ADVICE...

BUT, WELL...

THAT'S RIGHT.

HAYA-TO...

OF COURSE, IT'S AKANE'S DECISION TO MAKE.

BUT I ALREADY TOLD HER WHEN SHE WAS UNCERTAIN THAT I'D SEND HER OFF WITH A SMILE.

DESPITE HOW SHE LOOKS, AKANE IS VERY SENSITIVE...

...AND SHE'S A COWARD WHO BEATS AROUND THE BUSH INSTEAD OF JUST COMING OUT WITH WHATEVER SHE WANTS TO SAY.

SINCE YOU WENT TO THE TROUBLE OF COMING TO MEET ME...

CAN I ASK ONE THING OF YOU?

HUH?

SO DON'T BE IRRESPONSIBLE WITH HER FEELINGS...

...AND DON'T DO ANYTHING TO HURT HER.

AKANE.

HAYATO ...!

I KNOW!!

I THINK HE'S GOT THE WRONG IDEA ABOUT SOMETHING, DON'T YOU?

...

WHAT?

WE JUST HAPPENED TO USE THE SAME STUDIO, SO WE GOT TALKING.

SHIN-SAN PLAYS IN A BAND IN HIS SPARE TIME.

BUT YESTER-DAY YOU WERE CARRYING A BASS GUITAR ...

FIRSTLY, I'M NOT A BAND MEMBER. I'M A PRODUCER FOR A RECORD COMPANY.

...AND HE SAID THAT IF I LEFT THE BAND I'M IN AT THE MOMENT, HE COULD HELP ME DEBUT RIGHT AWAY...

HE LIKED MY SINGING AND MY GUITAR PLAYING...

IT WAS JUST A HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION, OF YOU BEING IN A BAND WITH ME...

AND YOU ALSO LIKING ME, THAT'S ALL.

HEY, WAIT A MINUTE.

SO THAT STORY WASN'T A METAPHOR FOR ANYTHING?

IF SHE WERE TO LEAVE THE SMALL WORLD SHE'S IN NOW, AND BROADEN HER HORIZONS...

SHE'D SOON FORGET ABOUT THAT TINY DETAIL OF LIKING THE MANAGER AT HER PART-TIME JOB.

I WAS OVER-CONFIDENT TO THINK I COULD HELP HER FIND MORE HAPPINESS...

BUT WHY DID THAT HAVE TO BE THE HYPOTHETICAL SITUATION?

WELL, I THOUGHT IT'D MAKE YOU THINK ABOUT IT MORE SERIOUSLY AND GIVE ME A PROPER ANSWER...

...TO BE THAT ACCOMMODATING TO AKANE.

...

BUT, WELL, YOU CERTAINLY ARE A FINE YOUNG MAN...

I'M A FATHER, AFTER ALL.

BUT DON'T WORRY.

I'M NOT YOUR RIVAL IN LOVE.

SHE'S ABSOLUTELY ADORABLE.

...

MY DAUGHTER WAS BORN LAST YEAR.

I THINK I DID A PRETTY GOOD JOB, EVEN IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF...

AH...WANT TO SEE?

WAIT, HAYATO!!

DASH

UWAAA-AAAAH!!

SLAM

UH...

DO YOU WANT A COFFEE?

NO, YOU SHOULD GO AFTER HIM.

...

FWSHHH
WHAT'RE YOU DOING LEAVING THE CAFÉ UNATTENDED, MASTER?
...
IF I TOLD YOU TO JUST END ME NOW...
...WOULD YOU DO THAT FOR ME?
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? DON'T BE STUPID.
ANYWAY, I'VE CLOSED THE CAFÉ FOR NOW.
...AL-RIGHT.
THANKS.

HUH?

BUT...

I WAS KIND OF SURPRISED.

...

I SAID ALL THAT BEFORE.

...I SEE.

YOU KNOW, HAYATO...EVEN THOUGH IT WAS A MISUNDER-STANDING...

...YOU THOUGHT IT WAS OKAY FOR ME TO GO OUT WITH SOMEONE ELSE...

HUH?

I'M ANNOYED AT MYSELF.

...BUT I WAS SELFISH.

I PUT OFF RESPONDING TO YOUR CONFESSION FOR SO LONG...

...SO I'M IN NO POSITION TO TELL YOU HOW YOU SHOULD FEEL ABOUT OTHER MEN.

BUT...

...BEFORE I COULD EVEN REMIND MYSELF OF THAT, WHEN I SAW YOU TALKING SO HAPPILY TO HIM AT THE STATION...

I GOT KINDA...

...PISSED OFF.

...WHAT?

...
...JEAL-OUSY?
...COULD THAT HAVE BEEN...
SO ALTHOUGH YOU SAID YOU'D SEND ME OFF WITH A SMILE...
YOU WERE ACTUALLY JUST HOLDING BACK AND TRYING TO KEEP IT TOGETHER?
SHUT UP!! IT'S FINE, ISN'T IT?! I DIDN'T STOP YOU!!
...
SEE, US MEN!
WE HAVE TO PLAY IT COOL SOMETIMES, OTHERWISE IT'S ALL OVER!!

!

...IT'S ALL RIGHT.

I'M GREEDY, AFTER ALL. I WOULDN'T ABANDON MY FRIENDS...

OR GIVE UP ON SOMEONE I LOVE FOR THE SAKE OF MY DREAMS.

BECAUSE I PLAN TO HAVE IT ALL.

FALL IN LOVE WITH ME EVEN MORE.

SO DON'T HOLD BACK...

WH...

FWSH

WHA...?

DID YOU THINK I WAS GOING TO KISS YOU?

...WHAT'S THAT LOOK FOR?

OKAY, LET'S GO BACK.

S... SURE.

NO WAY!!

N...

DON'T TELL THE OTHERS, OKAY?

OTHERWISE YOU'LL HAVE TO KISS EVERYONE ELSE AGAIN TOO, HAYATO.

...NGH!

...

I SEE...

SO THAT'S HER BAD GIRL ACT.

I TOTALLY GOT PLAYED...

#94 Someday's Valentine

FEBRUARY, 1962

6226

3

*Sign: Coffee Shop - Familia

珈琲専門店

ファミリア

THANKS FOR THE MEAL! HOW MUCH DO I OWE YOU?

WAITRESS, ONE MILK TEA PLEASE!!

OKAY, I'LL BE THERE IN A SECOND!!

箱壁

IT SEEMS LIKE I'M SOMEHOW GETTING USED TO LIFE HERE...

IT'S BEEN ALMOST A YEAR SINCE I RELOCATED TO TOKYO AS PART OF AN EMPLOYMENT SCHEME*.

*Sign: Kasukabe

*Middle and high school graduates from rural areas were often recruited en masse to relocate to the cities for work during Japan's post-war economic boom.

S...

SO TIRED...

...BUT I'M NOT.

I TOLD YOU NOT TO SLEEP IN THE ENTRANCE HALL, DIDN'T I?

YOU'RE IN THE WAY.

GAH!!

HEY!!

KICK

...IS THIS BOORISH, RUDE MANAGER.

AND ANOTHER THING I CAN'T GET USED TO...

*A Japanese actor, comedian, singer, and guitarist, who was active from 1960 - 2007.
**Hitoshi Ueki's biggest hit song, which made it into the Japanese music chart's top 10.

KATSUYO!! SACHIKO!!

DON'T JUST SIT THERE WATCHING TELEVISION, EAT YOUR DINNER!!

YOU'LL NEVER GET ANYTHING DONE LIKE THAT!!

YEAH, SUDARA-BUSHI** IS GREAT, ISN'T IT?

HITOSHI UEKI* IS FUNNY, ISN'T HE, SACCHAN?

CHATTER

CHATTER

ARE YOU EXPECTING ALL OF US TO GIVE YOU CHOCOLATE?

WHY WOULD I WANT SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

BY THE WAY, TOMORROW IS VALENTINE'S DAY ISN'T IT, MASAHIRO-SAN?

YEAH? SO WHAT?

A HA HA HA HA, WHAT'RE YOU SAYING? YOU'RE A STRANGE ONE, AREN'T YOU?!

UM... WHAT'S VALENTINE'S DAY?

GIVE ME CHOCOLATE!!

KATSUYO!! STOP JOKING AROUND!!

...

SHE'S TREATING ME LIKE SOME KIND OF COUNTRY BUMPKIN...

*Gifts (normally food or alcohol) usually given in December to express gratitude and appreciation.
In Japanese they are called Oseibo.

THERE'S NO WAY I COULD GIVE SOMEONE SOMETHING LIKE THAT!

AND ESPECIALLY NOT TO MASAHIRO-SAN!!

D...DAY OF LOVE?! SPECIAL SOMEONE?!

IS THAT WHAT'S IN FASHION HERE IN TOKYO?!

BEEP BEEP

YOU'RE A WAITRESS AT FAMILIA, RIGHT?

HEY.

OH...

YOU'RE STILL JUST A KID...BUT I GUESS YOU'LL DO.

LET'S GO FOR A DRIVE.

I'LL GIVE YOU A RIDE.

THIS IS...

THAT PUNK WHO'S ALWAYS CAUSING TROUBLE AT THE SHOP...

GRAB

WHAT?

I DON'T WANT TO.

I HAVE TO GO HOME AND MAKE DINNER.

HEY!

JUST GET IN!

IF IT'S FOOD YOU WANT, I'LL TAKE YOU TO A GOOD PLACE.

NO!!

LET GO OF ME!!

I AIN'T GONNA HURT YOU!

YOU'VE NEVER BEEN IN A CAR LIKE THIS BEFORE, RIGHT?!

WHY?!

UM...

SOME-BODY!

WHY WON'T ANYBODY HELP ME?!

MMPH!

GRAB

Y... YOU'RE THAT BASTARD FROM THE COFFEE SHOP!!

DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN TREAT YOUR CUSTOMERS LIKE THIS?!

WHAT WAS THAT ...?

IF YOU'RE IN MY SHOP, YOU'RE A CUSTOMER.

WELL IF IT ISN'T FUWA'S DEADBEAT SON.

AIN'T IT COLD DRIVING AROUND IN A CONVERTIBLE IN FEBRUARY?

SQUEEZE

IF YOU'RE OUTSIDE MY SHOP, YOU'RE JUST A STUPID BRAT.

OWWW!!

CUT IT OUT!!

...I'LL BREAK YOUR NECK.

IF YOU LAY A HAND ON ONE OF MY EMPLOYEES AGAIN...

VRMMM

I'LL REMEMBER THIS!! YOU BROKE LOSER WHO CAN'T EVEN AFFORD TO BUY A CAR!!

L...

LET GO!!

FWSH

IF YOU'RE JAPANESE, YOU SHOULD DRIVE A JAPANESE CAR, YOU IDIOT!!

U...UM, MASAHIRO-SAN...

THANK YOU.

T...THAT HURT!! WHAT DID YOU DO THAT FOR ALL OF A SUDDEN?!

SMACK

?!

YOU WERE LATE GETTING HOME, SO I CAME TO CHECK ON YOU, AND YOU'RE JUST WANDERING AROUND!!

FINISH YOUR SHOPPING AND COME HOME RIGHT AWAY!!

I WASN'T WAN-DERING AROUND!

HUH...?

FUWA-SAN'S SON?

I HEARD THAT HIS FATHER IS A HIGH-RANKING BUREAUCRAT IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE.

HE'S FAMOUS AROUND HERE.

OH... THAT GUY WHO ALWAYS MAKES A BIG RACKET IN THE SHOP, RIGHT?

...

SO IT'S HARD TO KNOW WHAT HE'D DO TO SOMEONE WHO CROSSED HIM...

WE ALL JUST TRY OUR BEST TO AVOID DEALING WITH HIM.

THAT MAKES SENSE...

GOOD GRIEF...

WELL, IT SEEMS LIKE I CAN STILL KEEP THE SHOP RUNNING, AT LEAST.

カラ カラ RATTLE RATTLE

...

I HEARD THAT...

IT WAS VALENTINE'S DAY TODAY...

SO YOU'RE STILL AWAKE, ARE YOU?

DID YOU NEED SOME-THING?

TH...THIS IS A GIFT TO THANK YOU FOR HELPING ME TODAY!! DON'T GO GETTING THE WRONG IDEA!!

HAAH?

SO I APPRE-CIATE THE THOUGHT-

I DON'T LIKE CHOCOLATE.

AH, IT'S FINE.

THIS IS YOKAN* FROM DORAYA.

AKEMI-SAN TOLD ME IT WAS GOOD, SO I JUST WENT AND BOUGHT SOME.

WHAT ...?

BESIDES, IT'S BROWN AND SQUARE-SHAPED, SO IT'S KIND OF LIKE CHOCOLATE?

I FIGURED THIS MIGHT BE MORE TO YOUR LIKING.

SINCE YOU'RE THE KIND OF STRANGE PERSON WHO PREFERS UDON TO NEW YEAR'S SOBA...

*A jellied dessert made from red bean paste.

IT'S BEEN ALMOST A YEAR SINCE I CAME HERE.

I'M GRATEFUL FOR YOU TO HAVE HIRED ME.

...AND A FAMILY THAT'S BECOME SO IMPORTANT TO ME.

AND FOR GIVING ME A PLACE TO BELONG...

WHAT'S WITH THAT HALF-HEARTED RESPONSE?!

IF YOU DON'T WANT IT, GIVE IT BACK, I'LL EAT IT INSTEAD!!

BUT...WELL, SINCE IT'S YOKAN, I'LL ACCEPT IT.

YOU'RE A PRETTY STRANGE ONE YOURSELF!

THEN ACT MORE HAPPY ABOUT IT!!

I NEVER SAID I DIDN'T WANT IT!!

RUSTLE

ARE YOU LISTENING? I SAID YOKAN.

GIVE HIM YOKAN FOR VALENTINE'S DAY.

UNDER-STOOD, AKANE?

WHAT ...?

BUT I ALREADY GAVE HIM CHOCOLATE.

IN THAT CASE, GO AND BUY HIM YOKAN RIGHT AWAY.

UH... I DON'T WANT TO, GRAND-MOTHER.

THE CAFÉ TERRACE AND ITS GODDESSES

WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE?!

FWAP

I ONLY SOLD YOU MY STORE BECAUSE YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO PUT THAT COFFEE SHOP OUT OF BUSINESS!!

...IM-PUDENT GIRL.

HOW DARE YOU DECEIVE SHIGEHISA FUWA...

#95 A Chiyoda Diner Emergency!

TEE HEE, THEY ARE, AREN'T THEY?

OH, BY THE WAY, DID YOU BOTH DO OKAY ON YOUR TEST?

SORT OF.

ALTHOUGH KIKU-CHAN DIDN'T LET ME COPY HER REPORT IN THE END.

YAWN

THINGS SURE ARE QUIET TODAY.

OF COURSE NOT. CHEATING'S NOT ALLOWED, YOU KNOW?

YOU'RE NO FUN.

ガラガラ RATTLE RATTLE

ドタ STOMP

ドタ STOMP

IS HAYATO-KUN HERE?!

IT'S AN EMERGENCY!!

WH... WHAT?

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR HAYATO-KUN, HE WENT TO BUY COFFEE FILTERS SINCE WE'RE CLOSED TODAY.

SO...? WHAT DID YOU NEED HAYATO-KUN FOR?

SINCE YOU'RE ALL HERE.

WELL, YOU'RE NOT WRONG.

WHAT IS IT WITH THAT GUY ALWAYS GOING TO BUY THOSE?!

HE SHOULD JUST BUY FILTERS IN BULK!!

IT TURNS OUT THAT FUWA-SAN FOUND OUT THAT WE WERE STILL FRIENDS WITH ALL OF YOU AT FAMILIA.

SO JUST NOW...

YOU!! HOW DARE YOU DECEIVE ME!!

I'LL MAKE IT SO THAT YOU CAN NEVER DO BUSINESS HERE, SO YOU'D BETTER PREPARE YOURSELVES!!

*Sign: Chiyoda Diner

IT SEEMS THAT FUWA-SAN MADE A CONTRACT WITH THE LANDOWNER...

TO LEASE THE LAND AND BUILD THE STORE.

SO WHEN I BOUGHT THE STORE, I JUST TOOK OVER THAT CONTRACT AS PART OF ALL THAT...

千代田食堂

P
IN

...THAT'S WHAT HE SAID.

I WONDER WHAT HE'S PLOTTING THIS TIME?

AND WHEN THIS LAND BECOMES MINE, I'LL KICK YOU ALL OUT AGAIN.

MY MEN ARE ON THEIR WAY TO SEE THE LANDOWNER RIGHT NOW IN ORDER TO ACQUIRE THE LAND ON MY BEHALF.

WHY IS HE DOING ALL OF THIS...?

THAT'S HORRIBLE ...

NORMALLY, THAT WOULD BE CORRECT, BUT...

THIS LAND WAS ONLY LEASED FOR A SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME ORIGINALLY, IN ORDER TO PUT YOU GUYS OUT OF BUSINESS.

ONCE THE LEASE RUNS OUT, IT LOOKS LIKE I'LL HAVE TO GIVE IT BACK.

BUT WAIT...

...I THOUGHT THAT EVEN IF THE LAND-OWNER CHANGES, A CONTRACT CAN'T JUST BE UNILATERALLY BROKEN LIKE THAT?

I THOUGHT WE'D BE FINE UNTIL THE SHORT-TERM CONTRACT EXPIRED.

I SHOULD'VE GONE TO SEE THE LANDOWNER AND HAD THE CONTRACT REWRITTEN RIGHT AWAY.

THAT'S IT!!

...OH!

IF THAT OLD GUY BECOMES THE LAND-OWNER, HE'D NEVER AGREE TO MAKE A CONTRACT WITH US.

SUPER LOADED? DON'T SAY IT LIKE THAT...

DON'T GO GET-TING ANY IDEAS.

AKANE-CHAN, YOUR FAMILY'S SUPER LOADED, RIGHT?

WHY DON'T YOU BORROW SOME MONEY FROM THEM AND BUY THE LAND FOR US?!

HE WAS THE ONE WHO WANTED TO KICK US OUT IN THE FIRST PLACE, AFTER ALL!

BESIDES, EVEN IF I COULD BORROW ENOUGH MONEY TO BUY THE LAND, WOULDN'T THAT OLD MAN HAVE ALREADY BOUGHT IT BY THEN?

MY PARENTS HAVE ALREADY TOLD ME THAT THEY WON'T SUPPORT ME IN ANY WAY...

EVEN IF I BORROWED ENOUGH MONEY TO BUY THE LAND, I'D NEVER BE ABLE TO AFFORD THE REPAYMENTS.

I SEE... SO IT'S NO GOOD, HUH?

CLATTER

WHAAAT ?!

EVERYONE EXCEPT RIHO-CHAN AND AKANE-CHAN!!

IF WE USE OUR BOOBS TO OUR ADVANTAGE, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO IT!!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, EVERYONE EXCEPT US?!

IF THAT'S THE CASE...

WE'LL JUST HAVE TO SEDUCE THE OLD MAN AND MAKE HIM LISTEN TO US THAT WAY.

...

むくり
STAND

AW... IS THAT RIGHT?

OF COURSE IT IS!!

BUT I STILL DON'T THINK HE'D BE FOOLED BY SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

HE DID SEEM LIKE A BIT OF A CREEP...

HUH...? WHAT'RE YOU GOING TO DO?

THE TIME HAS COME...

IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S UP TO US, TINA...

IT'S THE ONLY WAY.

IN THE NAME OF JUSTICE... WE'RE GONNA DEAL WITH THAT OLD GEEZER AND THEN BURY HIM IN THE MOUNTAINS.

STOP TALKING NONSENSE!!

ゴキ
CRACK

ゴキ
CRACK

HAYATO-KUN!!

WHAT'S ALL THIS RACKET?

RUSTLE

IF I'D KNOWN YOU'D ALL BE HERE I WOULD'VE BOUGHT MORE DAIFUKU.

OH.

DING DONG

WE'VE GOT AN EMER-GENCY!!

WELL, WE'RE CLOSED TODAY, SO I WENT TO BUY SOME COFFEE FILTERS.

I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT!!

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?!

...

MY,
MY...

HOW RARE IT IS FOR YOU TO VISIT US, FUWA-SAN.

DID YOU NEED SOME-THING?

HMPH...

YOU LOW-LIFE GRANDSON OF THAT COFFEE SHOP OWNER...

NOW YOU'VE GONE AND DONE IT.

I NEVER THOUGHT THAT SOMEONE LIKE YOU WOULD BEAT ME TO THE PUNCH IN BUYING THAT LAND.

NGH...

OH...I'M SORRY.

I ONLY WENT OUT TO BUY COFFEE FILTERS, BUT I ENDED UP BUYING THE LAND NEXT DOOR, TOO.

...

I KNEW THAT BEFORE LONG, HE'D NOTICE THAT WE WERE ACTUALLY ON GOOD TERMS WITH EACH OTHER.

SHIGEHISA FUWA IS NO FOOL.

WHAT?! YOU MEAN YOU BOUGHT THE LAND THAT OUR STORE IS ON?!

YEAH.

NO WAY!!

BUT I ALSO DIDN'T LIKE THE IDEA OF THIS OLD GUY BUYING THE LAND OUT FROM UNDER US AND COMING OVER TO GLOAT ABOUT IT.

THAT'S WHY I THOUGHT ABOUT HAVING RIRIKA SIGN A NEW LEASE WITH THE LANDOWNER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

...ON LAND OWNED BY A GUY LIKE HIM.

BESIDES, THERE'S ABSOLUTELY NO WAY THAT I'D WANT TO BE THE OWNER OF A SHOP...

DON'T BE STUPID.

I TOLD YOU BEFORE, DIDN'T I?

MY STOCKS HAVE BEEN DOING WELL.

YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING BAD, DID YOU?

B...BUT WHERE ON EARTH DID YOU FIND THAT KIND OF MONEY...?

EVEN THE CHEAPEST PLACES AROUND HERE ARE OVER TEN MILLION YEN*!

*100 yen = about $1

BE QUIET.

YOU MEAN THOSE VEGETABLES,** RIGHT?!

*Sign: Chiyoda Diner

**Ami has misheard 'stocks' as 'stalks'

SO I SOLD ALL OF MY SHARES YESTERDAY AND BOUGHT THE LAND.

I FINALLY MANAGED TO SAVE OUT THE AMOUNT THAT THEY WERE ASKING FOR...

I'VE BEEN IN TALKS WITH THE LANDOWNER FOR A WHILE.

千代田食堂

P

IN→

WHAT?

I'LL MAKE YOU REGRET THIS ONE DAY.

DON'T THINK YOU'VE WON JUST YET, BOY.

I JUST HAPPENED TO MAKE MY MOVE TOO LATE THIS TIME.

I COULD SAY THE SAME TO YOU...

IF YOU MESS MY EMPLOYEES AROUND ONE MORE TIME...

...I'LL MAKE YOU REGRET IT.

!!

GOT IT!

SHIRA-GIKU.

THE SALT.

TMP TMP

HMPH...

JUST YOU WAIT!

*Packet: Coarse salt

HUH?

FWSH FWSH

HAH!!

HAH!!

WHY WOULD YOU GO TO ALL THIS TROUBLE...?

WELL...

IF YOU HAVE THAT MUCH MONEY, SHOULDN'T YOU SPEND IT ON FAMILIA?

OUR STORE ISN'T REALLY ANYTHING TO DO WITH YOU, HAYATO-KUN.

AS LONG AS I'M THE OWNER OF THAT STORE, YOU'RE ALL MY EMPLOYEES TOO, RIGHT?

WHAT'RE YOU SAYING?

WHAT ...?

...

HEY ...!

AH!

ME TOO!!

HEY...

I LOVE YOU!!

LET ME BE PART OF YOUR HAREM TOO!!

CLING!!

WH- WH- WH...

...

WHATEVER, JUST GET OFF ME, YOU TWO!!

WE'RE JUST SUPPORTING CHARACTERS, YOU KNOW?!

YOU CAN'T DO THAT, RIRIKA-CHAN, MAO-CHAN!!

RIGHT ?

IT'S FINE, ISN'T IT?!

LOVE IS FREE, RIGHT?!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, TAKING ADVANTAGE OF ALL THE CONFUSION LIKE THIS?!

DAMN YOU...

I'LL NEVER LET GO OF...

THIS GRUDGE OF MINE.

#96 Rei vs. The Five Assassins

HAYATO-KUN WAS SO COOL, WASN'T HE?

HE DIDN'T EVEN BACK DOWN ONE BIT AGAINST THAT FUWA-SAN.

RIGHT?

NORMALLY NO MATTER HOW COOL A GUY ACTS, HE ALWAYS BOWS DOWN TO AUTHORITY FIGURES.

I FEEL BAD ABOUT SAYING THIS WHEN I WAS SUPPORTING TSUKISHIMA-SENPAI, BUT I THINK I'VE REALLY FALLEN FOR HIM.

ME TOO! I'D SLEEP WITH HIM.

IT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN...YOU BOTH KNOW YOU CAN'T REPLACE OUKA-CHAN.

HEKIRU-CHAN... COULD YOU JUST GIVE IT A REST?

YOU KNOW OUKA-CHAN'S NOT COMING BACK.

SHE'S RIGHT! BESIDES, I THOUGHT YOU WERE ROOTING FOR AKANE-CHAN, SO ISN'T IT BETTER FOR HER IF THERE'S LESS COMPETITION?

WELL REI-CHAN'LL BE MOVING HERE SOON, SO THEN THERE'LL BE FIVE PEOPLE AT FAMILIA AGAIN!

REI-CHAN, HUH...?

THAT MAY BE TRUE! BUT THE BALANCE FEELS OFF WITH JUST FOUR PEOPLE, RIGHT?

YEAH!!

SHE'S GOT GOOD INSTINCTS, SO SHE'D BE WORTH TRAINING!!

IN THIS SITUATION, MAYBE IT'S UP TO US TO TRAIN THAT GIRL AND MAKE HER INTO A TOP-CLASS HEROINE.

...I SEE.

SHE IS PRETTY CUTE, ISN'T SHE?

WE'D BETTER MAKE SURE SHE DOESN'T TRY TO MAKE A MOVE ON HAYATO-KUN.

SHE COULD BE A MODEL...NO, A WORLD-CLASS MODEL, EVEN.

FROM WHAT I SAW, SHE'S TALL, TOO...

SLAM

YOU UNFAITHFUL WRETCHES!!

IF YOU CAN'T EVEN COOK A SINGLE DISH, YOU'RE A LIABILITY!!

EVEN IF THIS IS JUST A PART-TIME JOB AT A CAFÉ...

LET'S INVITE HER OVER.

...OKAY THEN.

...

*Calligraphy: Constant Vigilance

IT... IT'S FINE!! IT'S NO TROUBLE AT ALL!!

SORRY TO CALL YOU OVER HERE LIKE THIS...

THESE FIVE GIRLS ARE FAMILIA'S RESERVE TROOPS.

BUT IN TERMS OF ABILITY, THEY'RE PROBABLY ALL STRONGER THAN ME...

IT SEEMS THAT THE GIRLS AT THE CHIYODA DINER WANT TO MEET YOU.

SORRY, BUT WHEN YOU HAVE TIME, CAN YOU GO OVER THERE?

THERE'S NO NEED TO BE SO SCARED.

WE'VE ALREADY ACCEPTED YOU AS AN EMPLOYEE OF FAMILIA.

SO...HOW MAY I HELP YOU TODAY?

YES... IN EXCHANGE, WE'LL MAKE SURE TO DRUM INTO YOU ALL THE THINGS YOU'LL NEED TO KNOW IN ORDER TO BE PREPARED ENOUGH TO JOIN THEIR RANKS.

YOU'RE OFFICIALLY GIVING ME YOUR PERMISSION TO WORK THERE?!

THERE'S NO WAY YOU'LL BE ABLE TO BE THEIR EQUAL FROM THIS POINT ONWARDS IF YOU DON'T PUT IN ENOUGH EFFORT, YOU KNOW?

AFTER ALL, YOU'RE ALREADY SEVERAL LAPS BEHIND THEM.

...

Y...YES!! I WILL DEVOTE ALL OF MY BEST EFFORTS!!

I THANK YOU FOR YOUR GUIDANCE AND ENCOURAGE-MENT!!

BAM

常在戒懼

*Calligraphy: Constant Vigilance

...

THAT'S RIGHT.

WELL, FIRST OF ALL...

SO THIS IS REI-CHAN, HUH?

SHE'S A LOT PRETTIER THAN I THOUGHT SHE'D BE.

IF YOU KEEP DOING THAT IT'LL DO YOU NO GOOD AT ALL.

...I'M GOING TO HAVE TO ASK YOU TO STOP PLAYING THIS SILLY CHARACTER WITH THE WHOLE MISUNDER-STANDING GAG.

WAIT A SECOND!

GOT IT?

WHAT WE'RE TRYING TO SAY IS, DON'T TRY TO MAKE ANY MOVES ON HAYATO-KUN.

THAT'S RIGHT... YOU'RE JUST A PART-TIMER.

MIS-UNDER-STAND-ING...

...YOU SAY?

HUH ...?

THERE'S NO NEED TO PUT YOURSELF DOWN LIKE THAT...

BESIDES, THERE'S NO WAY SOMEONE AS UTTERLY INEXPERIENCED AS ME COULD EVER BE A MATCH FOR HIM!!

MAKE A MOVE ON MASTER? I WOULD NEVER DO SUCH A TERRIBLE THING...

BUT THAT'S... YOUR WEAKNESS TOO, YOU SEE.

WHAT ...?

BUT, WELL... YOU'RE MORE HONEST THAN I EXPECTED.

THANK YOU!!

UGH... YOU GUYS ARE MAKING THINGS COMPLICATED AGAIN.

STOP PHRASING IT IN SUCH A WAY THAT IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE ACTUALLY MAKING A POINT.

I SEE!! I'LL KEEP THAT IN MIND!!

YOUR ATTACKS ARE TOO STRAIGHT-FORWARD, SO THEY'RE EASY TO READ.

YOU NEED TO USE MORE FEINTS, RATHER THAN JUST RELYING ON BRUTE STRENGTH.

HEY, CAN'T YOU DO THAT STUFF ANYTIME?

YES!! BY ALL MEANS!!

SHALL WE DO SOME TRAINING THEN, WHILE YOU'RE HERE?

TH...THE WORLD?!

OH, BY THE WAY, SHE'S NOT TALKING ABOUT MARTIAL ARTS.

AH!!

I WANT TO SEE IF YOU'RE READY FOR THE WORLD.

MORE IMPORTANTLY, YOU'LL BE SPENDING TIME WITH ME TODAY, REI-CHAN.

GOOD IDEA! LET'S DO IT.

WHILE SHE'S HERE.

IN THAT CASE, SHOULDN'T YOU PUT SOME MAKEUP ON HER?

...

MAKE HER LOOK ALL PRETTY, OKAY?

OF COURSE!

スポッ POP

WAIT RIGHT THERE!!

FIRST, WE SHOULD START WITH HOW TO MAKE DASHI-

AND WHY DID YOU TELL ME TO TAKE OFF MY BRA?

UM... WHY HAVE YOU DRESSED ME LIKE THIS...?

...

OH, NO... THERE'S NO WAY I COULD DO THAT...

AT LEAST LET ME STICK *SOME-* THING OVER THEM!

DON'T HIDE YOUR NIPPLES!! IF ANYTHING, YOU SHOULD BE SHOWING THEM OFF!!

WHAT KIND OF MORON GOES ON STAGE WEARING A BRA?!

常在戦場

HAS GIVEN UP

OKAAAY!

TCH... FINE. TINA, GO AND FETCH THE BANDAGE.

I WEAR IT SOME-TIMES.

WHERE?

WHY DO YOU EVEN HAVE A DRESS LIKE THIS?

BANDAGE

OKAY, NOW TRY WALKING IN A STRAIGHT LINE ALONG THE EDGE OF THE TATAMI MAT LIKE I JUST TAUGHT YOU.

AH...YES, I HAVE.

HAVE YOU PUT THE BANDAGES ON?

DON'T GOOF OFF ON THE RUNWAY!!

UM...

SO WHY DO I HAVE TO DO ALL OF THIS...?

THIS MUST BE SOME KIND OF TRAINING FOR SOMETHING...

HM...

IT'S PRETTY HARD TO WALK LIKE THIS.

THIS IS SOME OF THAT TRAINING YOU LOVE SO MUCH!!

NOW DO AS YOU'RE TOLD!!

Y... YES!!

YES.

YOU'RE DOING PRETTY WELL, REI-CHAN.

HUH ...?

RIGHT ...

WOW, SHE'S REALLY STARTING TO LOOK THE PART.

AS YOU'D EXPECT FROM AN ATHLETE LIKE HER, SHE HAS A STRONG CORE.

I WANT YOU TO PRACTICE YOUR WALKING A LITTLE MORE.

SO LET'S TRY THE NEXT OUTFIT, SHALL WE?

WHAT?! THERE'S MORE?!

OF COURSE THERE IS! YOU STILL HAVE MUCH MORE TO LEARN, YOU KNOW?

COME ON, TAKE IT OFF! SPEED IS IMPORTANT, TOO.

UWAA... HOW DID THINGS END UP LIKE THIS...?

WHY DO YOU EVEN HAVE SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

AND THEN I'LL HAVE YOU WALK WITH THIS STUCK OVER YOUR CROTCH.

...I'VE UNDRESSED.

WHAT? I MEANT YOUR UNDERWEAR, TOO!

WHAT?

WELL OF COURSE SHE'D RUN AWAY.

AH!! WAIT, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!

ドゥドゥドゥA STOMP STOMP

NO!!

I CAN'T DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT!!

HELLO, IS ANYONE HERE?

カラカラ RATTLE RATTLE

...

HUH ...?

WH... WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!

NOOO-OOO!!

...I SEE.

THAT ONE, HUH?

JUST FROM HEARING THAT NAME, I CAN ALREADY PRETTY MUCH TELL HOW THIS HAPPENED.

MAO-SAN...

SHE...

FWSH

...!

HURRY UP AND PUT SOME CLOTHES ON.

YOU'LL CATCH A COLD IF YOU HANG AROUND HERE LIKE THAT.

YES...

AH...

I CAME TO BRING YOU THE LAND RENTAL AGREEMENT I'VE DRAWN UP.

WHAT A HASSLE.

WHAT'S THE MATTER, HAYATO-KUN?

DID YOU COME HERE JUST TO SEE ME?!

HERE I AM!!

IS RIRIKA HERE?

HUH?

HAYACCHI'S SUPER NICE, YOU KNOW?

OH MY...! SO THAT'S HOW IT ALL HAPPENED.

SO THESE GIRLS WEREN'T FAMILIA'S RESERVE TROOPS AFTER ALL!!

WE WERE ORIGINALLY BROUGHT HERE TO PUT FAMILIA OUT OF BUSINESS.

BUT WE GOT BEATEN AT OUR OWN GAME AND ENDED UP WITH NOWHERE TO GO.

WHEN THAT HAPPENED, HAYACCHI LET US ALL STAY AT HIS HOUSE.

HE EVEN LENT US THE MONEY TO START CHIYODA DINER.

I'M SURE YOU'LL COME TO LIKE HAYACCHI JUST AS MUCH AS WE DO, REI-CHAN!

SO EVEN THOUGH HE MIGHT LOOK A LITTLE SCARY...

HEY, MAO!!

DON'T MAKE REI DO WEIRD THINGS LIKE THAT!!

...

...

YES...

Bonus Manga

Goddesses at Rest

Featuring sub-stories that couldn't be fitted into the main story!

Ouka Makuzawa: One Last Pilaf

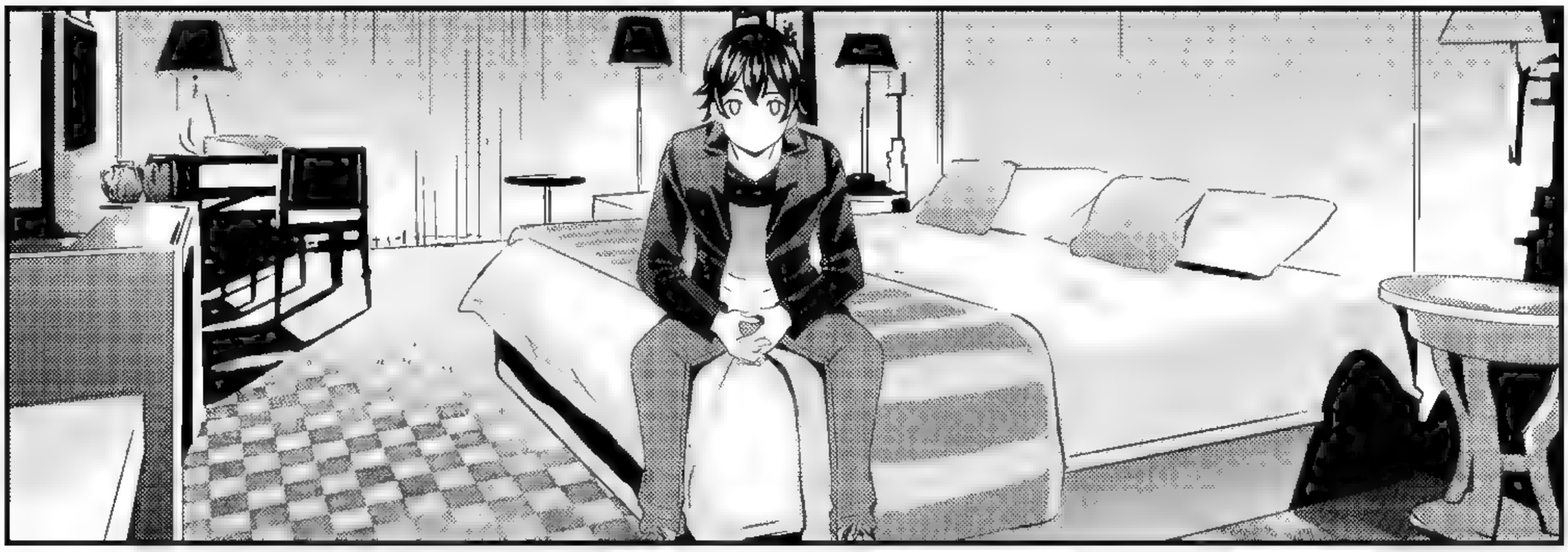
Akane Hououji: Teachings of the Past

*Packaging: Black soybean tea yokan

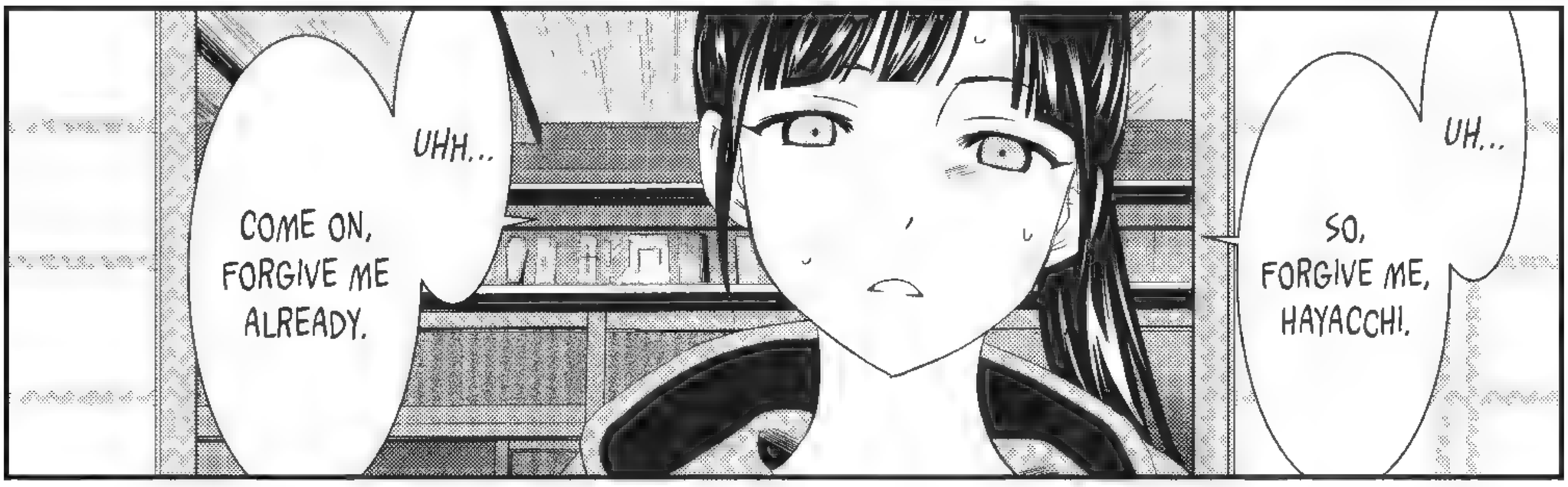
Shiragiku Ono: The Science of Cooking

*Proportional Integral Derivative controller. A feedback mechanism that is widely used for devices requiring continuously modulated control. (e.g. of temperature, speed, etc.)

Riho Tsukishima: An Unexpected Development



Ami Tsuruga: A Perilous Path



Hayato Kasukabe: Extreme Prejudice

NOOO! WHAT ARE YOU DOING, MAO-SAN?!

FWIP

WOO-HOO!!

HEY, STOP THAT!!

FWAP

WOO-HOO!!

UWA-AAAH!!

A HA HA HA!! A HA HA HA!!

JUST FROM HEARING THAT NAME, I CAN ALREADY PRETTY MUCH TELL HOW THIS HAPPENED.

...I SEE.

THAT ONE, HUH?

The Café Terrace and its Goddesses 10

Kodansha Digital Edition

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YOU'VE BEEN CAST AS THE HEROINE?

OH...?

OH, THAT'S GREAT.

WELL, DO YOUR BEST.

EVERYONE SAID THEY REALLY WANTED ME TO PLAY THE HEROINE!!

YEAH! IN MY UNIVERSITY'S PERFORMANCE CLUB!!

YEAH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

REI STARTS WORK HERE NEXT WEEK, SO I DON'T MIND CUTTING DOWN YOUR HOURS.

AND SO... I HAVE A LITTLE FAVOR TO ASK OF YOU.

THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT...

UM...

THE CAFÉ TERRACE AND ITS GODDESSES

#97 Preparing for a Role

SO THIS IS TOKYO TOWER...

IT SURE IS TALL, ISN'T IT?

WHY DID YOU MAKE ME COME HERE?

AND ON MY DAY OFF, TOO.

THE HEROINE I'LL BE PLAYING GETS ASKED OUT ON A DATE BY HER FIRST BOYFRIEND.

THE MEETING PLACE FOR THEIR DATE IS TOKYO TOWER.

THAT'S NOT WHAT I WAS ASKING.

ISN'T THAT SOMETHING THAT YOU CAN DO ON YOUR OWN?

IT'S FINE, ISN'T IT? I'M JUST GETTING YOU TO HELP ME PRACTICE!

IT'S MY FIRST TIME IN A WHILE GETTING TO PLAY A LEADING ROLE, SO IF I DON'T PREPARE FOR IT PROPERLY I'LL GET NERVOUS!!

I'VE NEVER BEEN ON A DATE BEFORE, SO I JUST WANT TO EXPERIENCE ONE.

I TOLD YOU BEFORE, DIDN'T I?

I'M THE KIND OF PERSON WHO GROWS BY EXPERIENCING THINGS FOR MYSELF.

SHUT UP!

YOU WERE PLAYING A CORPSE.

I CAN'T BETRAY THOSE SPARKLING EYES OF THEIRS, NOW, CAN I?!

SINCE I'M A FORMER SUPER GENIUS CHILD ACTOR, AND STAR OF THE POPULAR TV DRAMA *GOLDEN COPS*, EVERYONE HAS HIGH EXPECTATIONS OF ME!

OUR CLUB IS SERIOUS!

YOU KNOW THAT MOST UNIVERSITY CLUBS JUST PLAY AROUND HALF THE TIME, RIGHT?

I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU COULD TELL ME WHAT KIND OF GIRL THIS HEROINE IS.

SO YOU PRETEND TO BE MY BOYFRIEND, AND WE'LL JUST TALK ABOUT WHATEVER.

ANYWAY, FROM NOW ON, I'LL PRETEND TO BE THE HEROINE.

KIND OF LIKE KIKU-CHAN, I GUESS...

LET ME SEE... SHE'S QUIET, AND RESERVED...

INHALE

IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY, I'M LEAVING.

WIGGLE ねっ

I... I CAN'T BELIEVE HAYATO-KUN ASKED ME OUT ON A DATE...!

OH, MY, I FEEL LIKE I'M DREAM-ING...!

WIGGLE ねっ

HUH...?

MASTER WENT OUT TO GO AND PRACTICE WITH RIHO-SAN?

I SEE.

I JUST WANTED TO COME AND OFFER MY GREETINGS TO EVERYONE SINCE I'M OFFICIALLY STARTING WORK AT FAMILIA FROM TOMORROW...

YES.

THEY WENT OUT THIS MORNING, JUST THE TWO OF THEM.

*Box: Kaminari-okoshi (a type of sweet made with puffed rice)

UH... RIGHT.

WIGGLE

ねっ

RIGHT?! IT'S NOT FAIR, RIGHT? THAT ONLY RIHO-CHAN GOT TO GO...

LUCKY HER... LUCKY HER...

WIGGLE

ねっ

BUT I'M KIND OF ENVIOUS.

I HOPE THAT I CAN GET TO THAT STAGE SOON, TOO.

WOW, THAT'S SO COOOOL!!

THE PENGUINS LOOK LIKE THEY'RE SWIMMING THROUGH THE SKY!! HAYATO-KUN, LOOK, LOOK!!

HUH? ...YEAH.

THEY'RE SO CUUUTE!!

OH! IT'S LOOKING AT US!!

I NEVER KNEW THEY WERE SUCH WONDERFUL PLACES!!

I'VE NEVER BEEN TO AN AQUARIUM BEFORE!

HEY... YOU'RE COMPLETELY FORGETTING ABOUT THE CHARACTER YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE PLAYING.

THEN LET'S GO.

REALLY?! I WANT TO SEE!!

I HEARD THAT THEY HAVE OTTERS OVER THERE, YOU KNOW?

...

AFTER ALL, HAYATO-KUN...

...YOU'RE MY BOYFRIEND TODAY.

H... HEY.

IT'S FINE, RIGHT?

...

YAY!!

WELL... SURE.

DO WHAT YOU LIKE.

ゴゴゴゴ RUMMMBLE

AH!!

WELL, YOU FORGOT ABOUT IT RIGHT FROM THE START.

I COMPLETELY FORGOT THAT THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE HELPING ME PREPARE FOR THE PLAY AND WAS JUST HAVING FUN AS IF IT WERE A NORMAL DATE!!

OH, NO!!

I GUESS THAT'S TRUE.

I DON'T THINK IT'S THAT BIG A DEAL, THOUGH?

AS LONG AS YOU WERE ABLE TO HAVE A FUN EXPERIENCE, THAT'S WHAT MATTERS.

HONESTLY! IF YOU NOTICED, YOU SHOULD'VE TOLD ME!

I WAS THE ONLY ONE HAVING FUN, AND YOU JUST GOT DRAGGED ALONG WITH ME.

BUT I FEEL BAD.

WHAT...? REALLY?!

YEAH...IT WAS A NICE CHANGE OF PACE.

WELL, I HOPE SO!!

NOT EXACTLY.

I HAD A GOOD TIME, TOO.

HUH?

WHILE WE'RE HERE, CAN I DO SOMETHING THAT COUPLES DO FOR A MOMENT?

...OH.

HERE.

SAY "AAAH!" ♡

AS I THOUGHT, THAT'S...

WAIT...

...

WHY NOT? YOU'RE MY BOYFRIEND, RIGHT?

COME ON, EAT IT.

IS IT GOOD?

HEE HEE.

OF COURSE IT IS, IT'S ICE CREAM.

...

YOU STILL HAVE ROOM FOR MORE...?

OH...SORRY, BUT JUST COME WITH ME TO ONE MORE PLACE. IT'LL BE MY TREAT.

SHUT UP!! THAT'S ENOUGH OF THAT, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE ALREADY!!

YOU'RE SO CUTE, HAYATO-KUN.

WHAT? ARE YOU EMBARRASSED?

FSSSHHH
ザアアア

HEY...

WANNA JOIN ME, HAYATO-KUN?

カチャ
RATTLE

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HOTEL♥LOVER

WHAT?